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Form 10-300 (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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ENTRY NUM	BER DATE	_
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	Drange County, Indiana		
AND/OR HISTORIC:	S		
	Drange County, Indiana		
2. LOCATION STREET AND NUMBER:			
The state of the s	Public Square		
CITY OR TOWN:			e e
	Paoli		
STATE	CODE COUN	TY:	CODE
	Indiana 18	Orange	117
3. CLASSIFICATION			
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	Public Acquisition:		es:
☐ District ★ Building		Z occopied	es: Restricted
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		in progress	lo
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	Government Park		
Commercial	-	Transportation Co	mments
☐ Educational ☐			
	Museum Scientific		
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY			
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STREET AND NUMBER:	Dula Ita "Course	The state of the s	
	Public Square		
CITY OR TOWN:	Paoli	Indiana	18
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COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY C			
·	Orange County Recorder's Offi	ce	
STREET AND NUMBER:	Public Square		
CITY OR TOWN:		TATE	CODE
	Paoli	Indiana	18
REPRESENTATION IN EX	DETING CURVEYS		
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	Historic American Buildings Sur	rvey	
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DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY	Library of Congress		
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DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY	Library of Congress Capitol Hill	TATE:	CODE

٠,	DESCRIPTION				
			(Check	One)	
1	CONDITION	☐ Excellent ☐ Good 🔀	Fair 🗌 Deter	iorated 🔲 Ruins	☐ Unexposed
	CONDITION	(Check One)		(Che	eck One)
L		Altered X L	Jnaltèred	Moved.	▼ Original Site

The history of the Court House of Orange County, Indiana of which Paoli is the County Seat is characteristic of many such structures in the State. The first Court House was a log building erected about 1816 at a cost of about \$25.00 and was used only until such a time as a larger and more substantial structure could be erected. A second building was finished in 1818. Even before its completion in 1817, preparations were being made to build a permanent Court House and the County Board decided to erect a "creditable building". This structure fulfilled the needs of the community until 1839, at which time the Board finally agreed to prepare specifications for the present Court House.

It was not until 1847, however, that the Board actually voted to erect a new and larger Court House on the Public Square. The Court House Committee hired Andrew L. Burke to make the brick paving at \$7.50 per 1000 for the ordinary variety and \$10.00 per 1000 for those for the columns. Michael Ombaker was engaged to lay "stone foundation at \$1.25 per perch" and to erect brickwork, while William Harman was employed to do the woodwork.

All this labor seems to have been contracted for individually, no such thing as a "general contract" being drawn. Work on the structure was continued until 1850, when it was turned over to the county, fully finished at a cost of \$14,000. The building was considered in its day the handsomest and best built court house in southern Indiana, and was thus described by a contemporary: "The order of architecture, especially the four huge columns of the south end, is nearer the Dorio than any other. The shaft of the circular column is of the best brick covered with cement of great durability, while the capital is of plain hydraulic limestone." This limestone, I pause to add, is the far-famed Indiana limestone quarried most extensively in the country just northward. "On each side and each end of the building," the description continues, "are engaged columns (more properly pilasters) of brickwork relieved by engaged capitals to correspond with the circular columns on the south portico."

The distinct slope of the public square necessitates a high podium at the south end of the structure, although at the north end the main floor is only three steps above grade. The building, 53×74 , is simple in plan. The main floor is bisected longitudinally by a corridor 10 feet wide, with the county officials' rooms either side. The second floor, approached by an iron stairway from the south portico, is devoted to the court room and its appendages. At the center of the ridge is a cupola bearing a clock and weather-vane, a gift of the citizens of Paoli, put up in 1856. Upon examination of the accompanying photographs, one will observe that, in spite of crudities of detail, the general mass of the structure possesses a distinction surprising for the time, place and method of construction.

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	James M.	lucker, Count	y Arro	rn	еу			DATE		
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forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local Date

Name

Title

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Date

Form 10-300 (Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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STATE:	
INDIANA	
COUNTY:	
ORANGE	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	

<u> </u>	NAME							
	COMMON:			<u>. 10. 20) </u>				
	Orange County Cou	rthouse			·			
-	AND/OR HISTORIC:							
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2. 1	LOCATION							
	STREET AND NUMBER:							
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	PRESENT USE (Check One or	More as Appropria						
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7. DESCRIPTIO	N				(Check One)		
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CONDITION			(Check Or	1e)		(Che	eck One)
		XX Alter	red .	☐ Unaltered	1	☐ Moved	XX Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Orange County Courthouse is a fine example of Greek Revival temple style architecture executed with feeling, taste, and a consciousness of its surroundings. Five fluted doric columns cross the south facing main facade, and there are five pilasters running down each side, and four across the back. Even the back door which is seen on the approach from the north is carefully executed with pilasters, an entablature as well as transom and side lights.

The history of the Court House of Orange County, Indiana of which Paoli is the county seat is characteristic of many such structures in the State. The first court house was a log building erected about 1816 at a cost of about \$25.00 and was used only until such a time as a larger and more substantial structure could be erected. A second building was finished in 1818. Even before its completion in 1817, preparations were being made to build a permanent court house and the County Board decided to erect a "creditable building". This structure fulfilled the needs of the community until 1839, at which the Board finally agreed to prepare specifications for the present court house.

It was not until 1847, however, that the Board actually voted to erect a new and larger court house on the Public Square. The Court House Committee hired Andrew L. Burke to make the brick at \$7.50 per 1000 for the ordinary variety and \$10.00 per 1000 for those for the columns. Michael Ombaker was engaged to lay "stone foundation at \$1.25 per perch" and to erect brickwork, while William Harman was employed to do the woodwork.

All this labor seems to have been contracted for individually, no such thing as a "general contract" being drawn. Work on the structure was continued until 1850, when it was turned over to the county, fully finished at a cost of \$14,000. The building was considered in its day the handsomest and best built court house in southern Indiana. The columns are of the best brick covered with cement of great durability, while the capital is of plain hydraulic limestone quarried in the country just north of Paoli. Four chimneys stand on either side of the roof and two more stand on either side of the clock tower.

The distinct slope of the public square necessitates a high portico at the south end of the structure, although at the north end of the main floor is only three steps above grade. The building, 53 x 74, is simple in plan. The main floor is bisected longitudinally by a corridor 10 feet wide, with the county official's rooms either side. In order to reach the front doors of the building an iron staircase must be climbed to get to the first floor door. The second floor, approached by an iron stairway from the south portico, is devoted to the court room and its appendages. Both these were made by Seward and Co., a pioneer iron works in Bloomington, Indiana. At the center of the ridge is a cupola bearing a clock and weathervane, a gift of the citizens of Paoli, put up in 1856.

The interior of the building has undergone considerable alteration in order to maintain its usefulness to county government.

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15th Century 17th Century 1847		PERIOD (Check One of More as A	ppropriate)		
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (II Applicable and Known) 1847 AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate) Aboriginal		Pre-Columbian			20th Century
Aboriginal Education Check One or More as Appropriate) Aboriginal Education Check One or More as Appropriate) Aboriginal Education Check One or More as Appropriate) Prehistoric Engineering Religion/Phi. Other (Specify) Historic Industry Invention Science Agriculture Invention Science Architecture Commerce Literature Invention Commerce Literature Invention Communications Military Theater Conservation Music Transportation STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE The Orange County Courthouse is significant as one of the best examples of Greek Revival Architecture in the mid-west. This importance is compounded because it was built with local talent and interest on a site that has held the seat of Orange County government since its organization. The builders and designers clearly had in mind the relation of this building to the topography of the site and created a monumental impression with a relatively small building through the placement of the primary facade on the downhill slope. Paoli is still a small, southern Indiana town and the Courthouse continues as the predominent feature on a very compatable square. Its stature and preservation reflect the importance of this building to the government,		15th Century	☐ 17th Century	∑X 19th Century	
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The Orange County Courthouse is significant as one of the best examples of Greek Revival Architecture in the mid-west. This importance is compounded because it was built with local talent and interest on a site that has held the seat of Orange County government since its organization. The builders and designers clearly had in mind the relation of this building to the topography of the site and created a monumental impression with a relatively small building through the placement of the primary facade on the downhill slope. Paoli is still a small, southern Indiana town and the Courthouse continues as the predominent feature on a very compatable square. Its stature and preservation reflect the importance of this building to the government,		X Conservation	Music	☐ Transportation	
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Ar	Architectural Forum, February 1928, "A Greek Revival Court House in Southern Indiana," by Rexford Newcomb, Professor of Architecture, University of Illinois.									
Λ	American Bar Association Journal, January 1969, Feature Article.									
Am	The County Commissioner, Volume 4, #1, 1971									
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110	-665), I hereby nominate th	is property for in	clusion	N	etiona	al Regist	ег.			
89	the National Register and	certify that it has	s been							
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☆ U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1973-729-147/1442 3-1

Keeper of The National Register

Form No. 10-301 Rev. 7-72

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

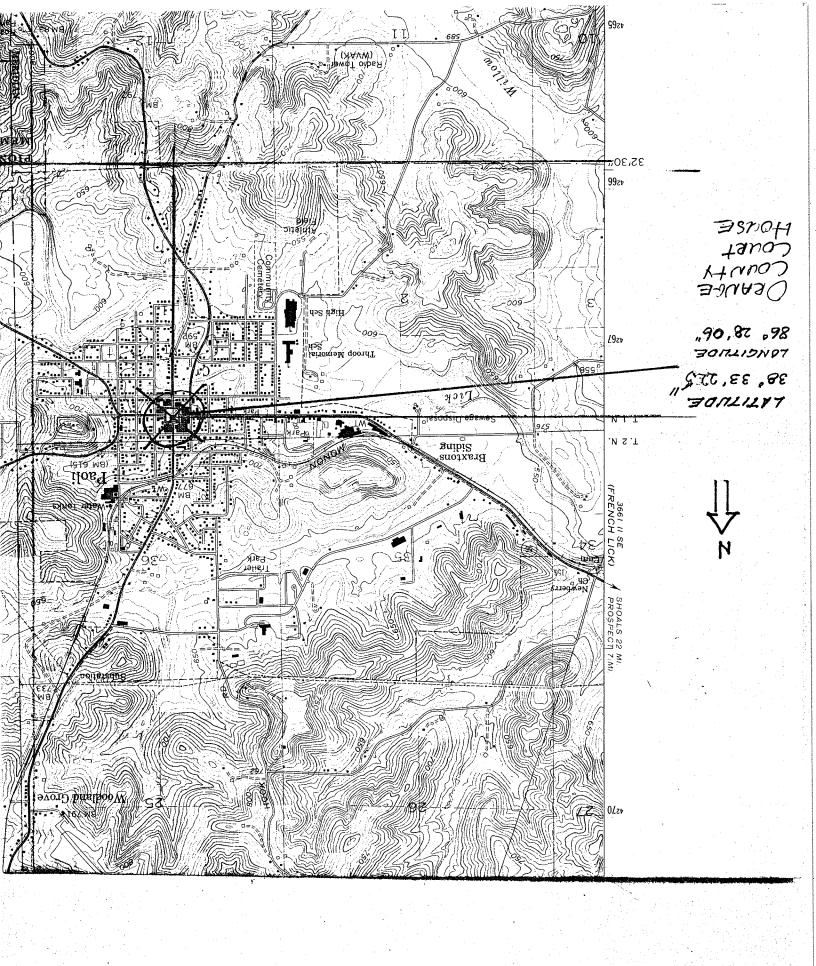
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE	
INDIANA	
COUNTY	
ORANGE	
FOR NPS USE ONL	Υ
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

						
1.	NAME					
	COMMON: Orange County Courthouse					
	AND/OR HISTORIC:					
2.	LOCATION					
	STREET AND NUMBER:					
* 1, *	Public Square					
	CITY OR TOWN:					
	Paoli	T	COUNTY:			CODE
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	2. North arrow.					
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR . NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

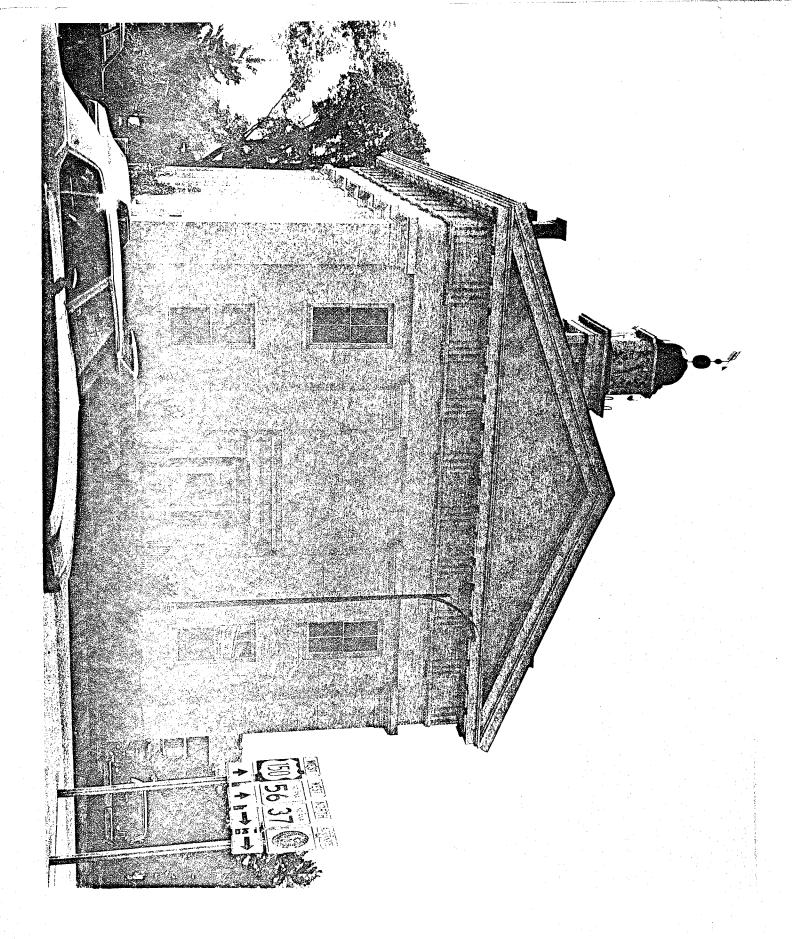
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES ' PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE	
Indiana	
COUNTY	
Orange	
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U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 876-167

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3. P	HOTO REFERENCE		
	PHOTO CREDIT: Eric Gilbertson		
	DATE OF PHOTO: October 1974		
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4. 1	DENTIFICATION		
	DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.		
	Rear (north) side.		



FORM 10-301 A

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

1. NAME		(Analana by NDC)
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2. LOCATION		1.00
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Public	Square	
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4. IDENTIFICATION		
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.		

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GPO 932-009

